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HOME BREWED ALE AND PORTER

on draught at John Proud's Ed. Sausville's and Fur-nam House. Our ale also maybe had in bottles at S. F. Wood's.

THE NORMAL SCHOOLS

C. H. Stearns Answers Criticism of Northfield News

Johnson, Vt., Dec. 3, 1914.

To the Editor of the Morning Journal:

Will you kindly grant me the courtesy of space in your columns for an open letter to the editor of the Northfield News? In his issue of December 6 there appears this editorial:

"Johnson, Vt., Nov. 26, 1914.

"Editor News: I shall much appreciate the favor if you will answer frankly the question appended. You will find enclosed a stamped envelope for your reply.

1. Have you ever visited any of the Vermont normal schools during sessions to observe their regular work? What ones? When? For how long visits?

2. Have you ever related any of the training schools in connection with any of the Vermont normal schools to know their work? What ones? When? For how long?

3. Have you ever observed the teaching of a graduate of a Vermont normal school? Where? When? For how long? Have you compared that work with that of untrained teachers?

4. Where else do you get information on these matters?

Sincerely yours,

C. H. Stearns,
Resident Commissioner,
Johnson Normal School.

"The editor of the News acknowledges the receipt of the above letter. As there is nothing about it to indicate that it is intended to be private communication, but rather that it is a form sent to other editors of the state it is printed and replied to below.

The News does not know why its editor should be placed under examination by the resident trustee of the Johnson Normal School.

"The News may answer the inquiries of Mr. Stearns by saying that its editor has never visited any of the State Normal Schools. The News knows of teachers who are state normal graduates that are doing exceedingly good work. It does not know how much of their success may be attributed to their normal school training. It also knows other teachers who have never attended either of the state normal schools. The News however, has no doubt that a special teachers' course though not all it should be a contribution towards success.

The contention of leading educators that the present state normal schools are not up to the standard of efficiency seems to be the basis for the demand for radical changes and perhaps a complete abandonment of these schools. The News believes that those active in and in close touch with educational affairs are more competent to judge of the matter than would be any layman upon a visit to one or all of these schools—or even a resident commissioner possessed of commendable patriotism for his home institutions."

To the Editor of the Northfield News:

In your editorial in the current issue of your paper you have done even more than I asked in reply to my questions which you quote and have made me correspondingly more your debtor. I wish to acknowledge the courtesy of your public reply with equal publicity. It was not my intention to ask a public statement and to seem to "place you under examination." My intent may best be shown by an anecdote.

The office boy, getting on the excursion steamer a little late, found all seats taken on the deck he preferred. So he said to those near by: "Have you seen the whale? There's a big one tied to the dock and he's thrashing about like everything." No one paid any attention at first but he by and by a few went to see the whale. By and by a few went to see the whale. The office boy kept on talking. More went. Everyone began to talk about it and soon all crowded to the other side. Then the boy picked out the best seat and took it to the choicest part of the deck. But no one came back. He wriggled uneasily and finally jumped up and ran to the other side, saying, "By gosh, I guess mebbe there is a whale."

There has been so much talking about the whale that I almost wondered if there might be one, although from close personal observation I had been unable to discover it. So I did write similar letters to a dozen editors. The results are illuminating. Fifty per cent of them have not replied; why can only be surmised. A few have seen one or more of our normal schools the occasion being from over two to twenty years ago! Their information comes from three sources: A friend in whom the editor has confidence (testimony whose value cannot be known without knowing the identity of that friend); a member of the Board of Education (the only evidence mentioned which can be considered reliable, and only mentioned in one case); reports of commissioners appointed to investigate.

Suppose Burlington could be told: "The University of Vermont is inferior; unless you provide additional land and equipment it will be sent to Rutland." Suppose then it expended \$100,000 and met all conditions imposed. Suppose further, that six years later it were told: "Your school must go. Your work is too poor. We know it because it was so reported two years ago. We have no desire to look further." Suppose on this what would Burlington feel—or say—or do?

Johnson is in just that situation. She has met all recommendations of the Commission. She has spent a sum as large in proportion as that mentioned above and that under a pledge from the state that the school would be retained until 1923. Her school I have reason to believe efficient, not stagnant. It can be made thoroughly "up to date" and suited for adequate training for typical Vermont schools more quickly and cheaply than any new city or town.

It seems to me, entirely unjust to judge a man or a living institution unheard or merely upon old evidence.

Very truly yours,
C. H. Stearns



ORDER NOW FOR THE HOLIDAYS

TWELVE MINERS ENTOMBED

Fire and Explosion in Colorado Coal Workings.

Denver, Col., Dec. 16.—Twelve men are entombed in shaft 2 of The Leyden Coal Company at Leyden, Col., fourteen miles west of Denver.

The fire started about 9 o'clock Wednesday night, the result of an explosion, and the timbering of the shaft was ablaze in a moment, cutting off escape in that way.

Shaft 1 is separated from shaft 2 by a narrow wall. A rescue party under the direction of Samuel Perry, President of The Leyden Coal Company, was endeavoring yesterday to break down the wall and the twelve imprisoned men could be heard working madly in their efforts to gain freedom. There is no hope of stopping the fire at present and every effort is being made to gain an entrance for the entombed men through shaft 1.

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For Sale—4½ miles from South Shaftsbury, 2½ miles from north station, farm of 100 acres. Good 9 room house, shad roof, fine cellar with cistern, a good well at house. Cow barn 25 x 40 with underground stable, shed 18 x 40, horse barn 25 x 25 and shed 14 x 25, corn house and wagon shed 20 x 25, hog house 16 x 20, hen house 10 x 20, hen house 19 x 14. There is running water at both barns, wood lot with abundance of fire wood and some spruce. This farm cut over 60 tons of hay this year, raised 137 bushel wheat, 487 bushel oats, 450 bushel corn on the cob and sold \$300 worth of garden truck. There is fine apple orchard of 100 trees, sugar orchard. With this farm goes 7 good cows and team of horses. Price for all \$3500—\$2000 down.—Nash and Hutchins. 471f

For Sale—2 miles south of Arlington station, farm of 96 acres, with good pasture, wood lot heavily timbered, 35,000 feet of pine and plenty hard wood. Good 1½ story 9 room house in fine repair, 1 barn 29 x 24, 1 barn 24 x 26 with basement, running water at barns. Good henery and yard, sugar orchard, 150 trees, fine apple orchard. With this place goes six cows, team horses, 3 shoats, 1 calf, 1 new double wagon, 1 mowing machine (new) 1 horse rake, 1 new buggy, 1 runabout, 1 new Cortland sleigh, 1 long box sleigh, 1 pair Travers sleigh with brake, 1 set double harness, 1 single harness, 1 shovel plow, 1 cultivator, 1 drag, 1 plow. Price including stock and tools \$2500.—Nash and Hutchins. 471f

For sale—Farm of 20 acres on main road half way between North Bennington and South Shaftsbury, 27 acres two grass land and 2 acres pasture and wood land. This place cut 40 tons hay this year. There is a modern 7 room house in fine repair, 2 good barns, hen house and corn house closed well and cistern at house, running water in pasture. This was the property of the late Clayton Mattison and the land is in the highest state of cultivation. Price \$2100.—Nash and Hutchins. 471f

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BENNINGTON COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

BENNINGTON, VERMONT INCORPORATED 1870

Statement of Condition Nov. 1, 1910

RESOURCES	LIABILITIES
Loans	Amount due Depositors \$1,006,974.26
Real Estate \$17,000.00	Surplus 104,566.23
Stocks \$43,742.20	\$1,111,540.49
Personal Loans \$1,728,623.02	
Banking House 25,000.00	
Real Estate By Foreclosure 600.00	
Cash in Banks on Interest 25,758.00	
Cash on hand 6,828.34	
\$1,761,570.49	

Dividend July 1st, 1910, was at the rate of 4 per cent per annum.
Depositors are entitled to receive a year's interest of the first day of January and July, according to the rate.
All dividends not withdrawn will be added to the principal and draw interest thereon.
Whether bank stock is purchased or not, it is subject to the same laws as other property.
Deposits made on or before the 15th day of the month draw interest from the first day of that month.

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For making others happy we have done our best by getting together the greatest stock of Christmas goods ever shown in our store. Look them over. We know you will buy.

Ladies' Toilet and Manicure Sets represent 50 per cent of our stock and 100 per cent more than you will find anywhere else, with the prices that much lower. Prices run \$1 to \$12.

Prices of Leather Goods range from \$1 to \$15 in traveling cases and brush and comb cases.

Stationery always is an important item in our stock. A box of stationery always makes an acceptable gift. Prices run from 15c to \$1.00 a box.

Our stock this Christmas is beyond description in new creations. You are absolutely safe in making your selection here.

Unless you personally look over our stock you cannot possibly know of the great variety of goods, nor can you imagine how beautiful they are either in value or attractiveness.

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